

**NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST A RELEASE OF FUNDS**

January 26, 2014
Missoula County
200 West Broadway
Missoula, MT 59802
406-258-4939

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by Missoula County and the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks. In addition, to meet requirements of the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) two separate public notices soliciting public comment have been published.

REQUEST FOR THE RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after February 25, 2014 the above-named Missoula County will request the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to release Economic Development Initiative (EDI) funds provided under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 (P.L. 111-117), and the Conference Report accompanying the Act (H.R. 111-366), for the project Milltown State Park Development. Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks proposes to complete trail and amenity development at the new state park at the confluence of the Blackfoot River and Clark Fork River.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Missoula County has determined that such request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and accordingly the above-named Missoula County has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA).

The reasons for the decision not to prepare such statement are as follows: (1) the project site has been reclaimed from submersion under the Milltown Reservoir as part of the federal Milltown Superfund Site restoration; (2) consideration based on consultation with the public and relevant authorities indicates no negative impact on flora, fauna, water quality, air quality, historic resources, or other aspects of the human environment.

An Environmental Review Record documenting review of all project activities in respect to impacts on the environment has been made by the above-named Missoula County. This Environmental Review Record is on file at the Department of Grants and Community Programs, 127 West Spruce, Missoula, Montana, and is available for public examination and copying upon request between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. or by appointment. The public can view the draft EA electronically, at <http://stateparks.mt.gov/news/publicNotices/recent.html>.

No further environmental review of such project is proposed to be conducted prior to the request for release of HUD project funds.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by Missoula County to: Milltown State Park c/o FWP Region 2, 3201 Spurgin Rd., Missoula, MT 59804; Public comments must be received by Monday, February 24 at 5 p.m. The public is alternatively invited to comment online at stateparks.mt.gov by clicking "submit comments," or via the direct link: <http://stateparks.mt.gov/news/publicNotices/recent.html>. All comments so received will be considered and Missoula County will not request release of funds or take any administrative action on the project prior to the date specified in the preceding sentence.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks will undertake the project described above with EDI funds provided by HUD under The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 (P.L. 111-117). Missoula County is certifying to HUD that John Adams, in his official capacity as Grants Administrator and Environmental Certifying Officer of the Department of Grants and Community Programs, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision-making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect on the certification is that upon its approval, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks may use the EDI funds and HUD will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

OBJECTIONS TO STATE RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will accept objections to its release of funds and Missoula County's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) that the certification was not in fact executed by the chief executive officer or other officer approved by the Department of Commerce; (b) that the applicant's environmental review record for the project indicates omission of a required decision, finding, or step applicable to the project in the environmental review process; (c) the grant recipient has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental design. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58) and may be addressed to: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Region VIII Office, 8ADE, 1670 Broadway Street, Colorado 80202-4801. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

John Adams
Environmental Certifying Officer
January 26, 2014
200 West Broadway
Missoula County, Montana 59802